



PATENT
471-162P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Enzo MEDICO et al. Conf.: 5174
Serial No.: 09/600,991 Art Unit: 1647
Filed: September 15, 2000 Examiner: S. Wegert
For: RECOMBINANT PROTEINS DERIVED FROM HGF AND MSP

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REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

November 27, 2001

Sir:

The following is responsive to the Restriction Requirement dated October 4, 2001 (Paper No. 9).

Claims 1-13 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has required election in the present application among five groups of claims. For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect Group I, claims 1, 2, 3, 10, and 13.

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement as it relates to Groups I and II, however, inasmuch as the polypeptides claimed therein share a common structural feature, that is, the presence of two super-domains formed by HL and K domains from HGF and MSP α -chains, separated by a linker. In other words, the motifs HL-K1-K2 naturally present in HGF or MSP

molecules are tandem-repeated in the polypeptides of both claims 3 and 4. (These structural features are not present in Trusolino et al. It is furthermore pointed out that the latter was published subsequent to the priority date of the instant application.)

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Richard Gallagher (Reg. No. 28,781) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. \$1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. \$1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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